

2020 Grant Funding Application For Tactical Urbanism Demonstration Projects Supporting Active Transportation

Applications due by 4:00 pm, Thursday, February 20, 2020

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity (DNPA) invests in partnerships and activities with communities that work towards creating vibrant places that are safe for being physically active during everyday activities such as walking and bicycling. Quickly implemented, low-cost projects supporting safe physical activity have been proven to be a critical spark for successful long-term community change. This program will provide funding to build short-term, low-cost demonstration projects that create long-term momentum to improve the built environment supporting safe walking and bicycling for residents of all ages.

The DNPA focuses on increasing healthy eating, promoting physical activity and decreasing obesity. Poor nutrition, sedentary behaviors, and obesity are serious threats to the health, academic achievement, and productivity of Indiana's residents. Each of these threats is linked to an increased risk for chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke, some cancers, and diabetes. Chronic disease is the leading cause of death and disability in Indiana. DNPA works with local communities across Indiana to increase levels of physical activity as a way to support healthy community outcomes.

TACTICAL URBANISM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FUNDING OVERVIEW

The DNPA is providing funding to communities to assist in the design and implementation of low-cost pop-up, tactical urbanism projects that support active living in Indiana. This funding will assist up to four grantees in the planning, preparation and implementation of one or more tactical urbanism projects in their communities. This round of funding is for projects starting after April 1, 2020 and must be substantially completed by September 30, 2020.

Key expectations for the demonstration projects are as follows:

- Must be quickly completed and implemented.
- Support a range of active transportation options in the community.
- Special consideration will be given to projects that enhance access to parks, playgrounds, schools, child care settings, shopping areas, transit stops, and other areas children visit often.
- Include public input and involvement as part of the planning and implementation process.
- Include an evaluation documenting successes and challenges along with future planned long-term changes.

Examples of projects to be funded include:

- Temporary bicycle and pedestrian safety demonstration projects that lead to long-term changes.
- Purchase and deployment of pop-up traffic calming equipment that can be shared with other communities or neighborhoods.
- Temporary traffic calming projects, such as curb extensions, traffic circles, high visibility crosswalks, and chicanes.
- Temporary protected bike lanes, pedestrian lanes, parklets, "safety town" type projects to teach children safe walking and bicycling, and other similar facilities.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS AND ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The DNPA is seeking applications from communities in Indiana interested in using grant funds to assist in planning and implementing tactical urbanism demonstration projects. Successful applicants will be selected based on their level of readiness to plan for and implement these types of projects as well as their willingness to consider future permanent environmental changes necessary to foster healthy and active communities.

Eligible applicants include incorporated communities in Indiana.

PROGRAM FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The maximum grant award is \$10,000 for each community and may include single or multiple project locations. Matching funds are not required but will be positively considered in the review of the applications. Funding will pay for equipment, materials and installation of the temporary demonstration projects. Other expenses (such as consulting fees, permitting fees, food, and travel) will not be reimbursed as part of this funding. Final approval of funds will be contingent upon the preparation of an approved grant agreement between the ISDH and the applicant that includes other State required conditions necessary for the approval. Final funding reimbursement will require a project report documenting the installation of the project(s) along with an evaluation of the project results.

THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

The process required for the use of these funds will be community-focused through public participation throughout the project period. The objectives of the project planning and implementation process are:

- Engage the public and project users to help guide and evaluate the project success.
- Identify both the short-term and long-term effects of the project implementation.
- Work closely with local (or state) officials for required approval and permitting of all improvements.
- Follow all accepted engineering, design and safety protocols necessary for implementing the project.
- Integrate educational activities into the project implementation.
- Provide before and after project data (such as speed reduction or pedestrian counts) as part of the required evaluation report at the end of the project period.

The final project scope of work will be defined with each community during the preparation of the grant agreement with ISDH and can be tailored to address specific community needs.

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

Applications are due by 4 PM on Thursday, February 20, 2020. Applications may be submitted via email (PDF format) or in-person at the offices of ISDH/DNPA. Email submissions shall be addressed to pefritz@isdh.in.gov (there is a 20 MB file size limitation). A hard copy of the application may be dropped off at the front desk of the ISDH downtown Indianapolis location by the deadline addressed to:

Pete Fritz, AICP, PLA

Healthy Communities Planner Indiana State Department of Health Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity 2 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN 46204

REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Applications shall include the following documents:

- 1. A cover letter on the sponsoring community's letterhead, signed by the highest elected official in the community that states a commitment to implement the project during the required time period. The letter should also include key contact information for one person that can be notified during the application review process for more information and/or award notice.
- 2. One response to the application questions below, not to exceed a total of five pages in length.
- 3. A minimum of three letters of support from community stakeholders supporting the project, such as the local school corporation, local hospital, Chamber of Commerce, and other project sponsors.

REQUIRED APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1. Describe your community's interest in and need for this type of demonstration project, including any planning documents or other data addressing the need for the project.
- 2. Describe the type of project you wish to implement with the grant funds. Explain the various components of the project in detail and provide a clear location map showing street names and adjacent uses and buildings. Clearly state whether the project is on a local street or state highway. Provide a brief project budget (identify any matching funds) and project timeline.
- 3. Who will be served by the project and how will their needs be addressed? What are the projected benefits to the users of this project (especially children) and how will you measure the project's success? Clearly state the benefits and how you will measure success, such as speed reduction, safety improvements, number of participants, etc.
- 4. Describe how you will gain the required design assistance and local approvals to implement the project. If the project is along a state highway explain how the project will obtain INDOT review and approval.
- 5. Support from elected officials is key to the project's success. How will your community inform and engage elected officials throughout the project planning and implementation?
- 6. Describe your public outreach process for engaging residents in the project planning and implementation. How will the outreach process engage people of all ages, especially children?
- 7. Are there currently any programs, events, or activities offered in your community to encourage walking, bicycling, or using public transit? How will the project build upon those existing programs?

PROJECT SCORING CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed based upon the following criteria:

- 1. **Community Impact** (50 points): The proposed project addresses a clear need and will create positive change. The project demonstrates the ability to quickly increase safe access to destinations in the community.
- 2. **Community Engagement** (25 points): The project will effectively engage community residents and project users. Extra consideration will be given to projects that increase safe walking, bicycling or transit access to destinations that serve children.
- 3. **Project Delivery** (15 points): The applicant demonstrates the capacity to deliver the project on time and within the awarded budget.
- 4. **Innovation** (10 points): The project demonstrates creativity, aesthetic beauty, and unusual design or engagement elements and has the potential to inspire community change.

TACTICAL URBANISM EXAMPLES

Below are links to web sources for more information on tactical urbanism demonstration projects that support safe active transportation. The projects in South Bend and Fort Wayne are good examples of temporary tactical urbanism projects in Indiana.

Slow Your Street, a How-to Guide for Pop-up Traffic Calming

http://www.onestl.org/media/site/documents/reports/bicycle-pedestrian-planning/SlowYourStreets_HowToGuide_Final-v.2_reduced.pdf

The AARP Pop-up Demonstration Tool Kit

https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/images-2016/PopUpToolKit/PopUpToolKitPDF/a-Pop-Up-Demonstrations-Printable-272017.pdf

South Bend Indiana Neighborhood Traffic Calming Demonstration Projects

https://smartgrowthamerica.org/south-bend-in-demonstration-project-neighborhood-traffic-calming/

Fort Wayne Indiana Better Block Project

https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/getting-around/info-2018/build-a-better-block.html

Pop-ups for Safe Routes to School

 $\underline{https://www.saferoutespartnership.org/sites/default/files/resource_files/popups_for_safe_routes_to_school_0.pdf$

http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/sites/default/files/pdf/where_the_duct_tape_meets_the_road.pdf

Traffic Calming Pop-up Demonstration Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9rT9GOAWjY

Resources to Host a Pop-up Traffic Calming Demonstration

 $\underline{https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2017/4/10/use-these-resources-to-host-a-pop-up-traffic-calming-demonstration}$

Pop up Complete Streets Events

https://atpolicy.org/resources/implementation-steps/tacticalsuburbanism/

Ouick Builds for Better Streets

https://b.3cdn.net/bikes/675cdae66d727f8833_kzm6ikutu.pdf



South Bend Traffic Calming Demonstration Project



Fort Wayne Better Block Demonstration Project

A digital copy of this Request for Applications is available on the <u>DNPA web page</u>. For more information and questions contact Pete Fritz at 317.234.6808, <u>pefritz@isdh.in.gov</u>.